

CONFIDENTIAL.

[No. 26 of 1893.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE
Week ending the 1st July 1893.

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		Nil.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	380	14th June 1893.
2	"Grāmvasī" ...	Ramkristopur, Howrah ...	1,000	
3	"Kaliyuga" ...	Calcutta ...	...
4	"Kasipur Nivāsi" ...	Kasipur, Barisāl ...	300	
5	"Navamihir" ...	Ghatail, Mymensingh ...	500	
6	"Sadar-o-Mufasssal" ...	Tahirpur, Rajshahi ...	650	
7	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria ...	755	
Tri-monthly.				
8	"Hitakari" ...	Tangail Mymensingh...	800	
Weekly.				
9	"Bangavāsi" ...	Calcutta ...	20,000	24th ditto.
10	"Banganivāsi-o-Prakriti" ...	Ditto ...	8,000	22rd ditto.
11	"Burdwān Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	320	20th ditto.
12	"Chāruvārtā" ...	Sherpur, Mymensingh ...	300	19th ditto.
13	"Chinsura Bārtāvaha" ...	Chinsura ...	.....	25th ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakāsh" ...	Dacca ...	5,000	25th ditto.
15	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	1,050	23rd ditto.
16	"Hindu Ranjikā" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	212	
17	"Hitavādī" ...	Calcutta ...	3,000	
18	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore ...	.....
19	"Pratikār" ...	Ditto ...	611	23rd ditto.
20	"Rangpur Dikprakāsh" ...	Kakinia, Rangpur ...	170	
21	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta ...	800-1,000	21st ditto.
22	"Samaj-o-Sāhitya" ...	Garibpore, Nadia ...	1,000	25th ditto.
23	"Samaya" ...	Calcutta ...	3,000	23rd ditto.
24	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	4,000	24th ditto.
25	"Sānsodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	.....
26	"Sāraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	(300-400)	24th ditto.
27	"Som Prakāsh" ...	Calcutta ...	800	26th ditto.
28	"Srimanta Sadagar" ...	Ditto ...	.....
29	"Sudhākar" ...	Ditto ...	3,600	
Daily.				
30	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā" ...	Calcutta ...	500	27th to 29th June 1893.
31	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	.....	19th to 22nd ditto.
32	"Dainik-o-Samāchār Chandrikā" ...	Ditto ...	1,500	25th to 29th ditto.
33	"Samvād Prabhākar" ...	Ditto ...	1,435	23rd, 24th, 27th and 28th June 1893.
34	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	28th and 29th June 1893.
35	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto ...	.....	23rd, 24th and 26th to 29th June 1893.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
36	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500-600	26th June 1893.
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
37	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Samāchār Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	400	
Weekly.				
38	"Aryāvarta" ...	Dinapore ...	750	
39	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	500	
40	"Bhārat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	
41	"Champaran Chandrika" ...	Bettiah ...	350	
42	"Desī Vyāpārī" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
43	"Hindi Bangavāsi" ...	Ditto ...	5,000	
URDU.				
Weekly.				
44	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	750	
45	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....
46	"Calcutta Punch" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
47	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide" ...	Ditto ...	300	
48	"General and Gauhariāsi" ...	Ditto ...	410	
49	"Mehre Monawar" ...	Muzaffarpur ...	.....
50	"Reis-ul-Akhbar-i-Murshidabad" ...	Murshidabad ...	150	
51	"Setare Hind" ...	Arrah ...	.....
52	"Shokh" ...	Monghyr ...	100	

No.	Names of newspapers.		Place of publication.		Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	URIYA.					
	<i>Monthly.</i>					
53	"Asha "	...	Cuttack	...	80	
54	"Echo "	...	Ditto	...	.....
55	"Pradíp "	...	Ditto	...	.....
56	"Samyabadi "	...	Ditto	...	.....
57	"Taraka and Subhavártá "	...	Ditto	...	.....
58	"Utkalprabhá "	...	Baripada	...	250	
	<i>Weekly.</i>					
59	"Dipaka "	...	Cuttack	...	.....
60	"Samvad Váhika "	...	Balasore	...	225	28th May 1893.
61	"Uriya and Navasamvád "	...	Ditto	...	420	17th and 24th May 1893.
62	"Utkal Dipiká "	...	Cuttack	...	400	20th and 27th ditto.
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.					
	BENGALI.					
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
63	"Paridarshak "	...	Sylhet	...	480	
64	"Silchar "	...	Silchar	...	250	

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

IN the *Samay* of the 23rd June Babu Surendra Nath Mitra complains against the police officers of Jaynagar in the 24-Parganas that the several cases of theft in the houses of Babus Chandra Nath Pal, Ramdhan Das and others, and the many dacoities that have been committed within a short time in the villages within the jurisdiction of the Jaynagar thana, still remain untraced. Thefts, dacoities and even house-burning are occurring so often that the villagers are spending their nights in sleepless anxiety. It is certain that all this lawlessness is owing to the negligence of the police. The Sub-Inspector, a Mussulman, is making friends with the low class Mussulmans of the place, and the latter have therefore become insolent towards respectable people. The writer prays that the authorities will transfer the Sub-Inspector from Jaynagar.

SAMAY,
June 23rd, 1893.

The Jaynagar Police in the 24-Parganas district. The Police and its ways. 2. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 28th June has the following on the character of the Indian police and its manner of investigating cases:—

SULABH DAINIK,
June 28th, 1893.

The police forms a deep stain on the British Administration of India. It is like a dire *halahala* (virulent poison) in a mass of nectar; it is like a terrible thorny thicket in the midst of a field of corn; it is like strong salt in a mass of sweet water; it is like a terrible mass of the darkness of sin dwelling upon the moonlight of virtue. The innocent and inoffensive people in the mufassal are sorely vexed by the oppressions of the police. They look upon even the meanest police officer as the veritable brother of Pluto. The authorities nevertheless repose boundless confidence in the police. There are many Deputy Magistrates who are meanly subservient to it and implicitly believe what it says. It is useless to expect justice from these Hakims.

When asked to investigate cases, the police officers, instead of going straight to the parties implicated in them, go to their *addas* in or about the villages in which the parties live, and summon them there, these *addas* being the houses of influential villagers who are in league with the police and through whom police officers get what they want from the villagers. Investigations are held in these *addas*, and the parties concerned in the investigations and their witnesses have to come there to give their evidence. As the owners of the *addas* are influential men, and as most of the villagers are under obligation to them in some shape or other, the witnesses who come there for the purpose of giving evidence dare not to tell the truth, lest by so doing they should offend the owners of *addas*, who take care to be present at the investigations, in order to see that their own views of the cases are upheld. It is clear from this what a farce these so-called investigations by the police are. The law forbids all Government servants from cultivating the acquaintance of people living within their jurisdiction; but the law is set at naught by police officers who freely cultivate the acquaintance of influential villagers with the object of using them as channels for the flow of illegal money into their pockets.

And it is a mystery why Government overlooks this clear violation of the law by the police.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

3. The *Sahachar* of the 21st June is glad that Government has not rejected the recommendation to extend the jury system which was made by Sir Romesh Chandra Mitra and Maharaja Jatindro Mohun Tagore. A circular inviting their opinion on the subject has been addressed to the Judges in the non-jury districts. Now whatever the Judges in question may say on the subject, Government will know, if it consults public opinion, that the time has come for extending the jury system to the districts of Jessore, Faridpur, Pabna, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Tippera, Chittagong, Purnea, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Malda, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur and Gaya. Again, having regard to the education and enlightenment of the people living in Darjeeling, that district also deserves to have jury trial extended to it. By issuing the circular Government has shown great liberality.

SAHACHAR,
June 21st, 1893.

SAMAY,
June 23rd, 1893.

"No conviction, no promotion."

4. The *Samay* of the 23rd June has the following:—

A Backergunge correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that in a Sessions case in that district tried on the 27th May last, a Sub-Inspector of Police deposed that in 1892 a circular was issued by the District Superintendent of Police to the effect that if 75 per cent. of the cases submitted by the police were tried in favour of the accused, then the officers sending up those cases would have their promotion suspended and might even lose their appointments.

What, asks the editor, should people understand from all this? Did the District Magistrate issue the circular without the permission of the Bengal Government? If so, why did not Government demand an explanation from the Magistrate?

If not, how did Government deny its knowledge of the "No conviction, no promotion" circular?

The writer says that he did not at first believe that Government could have really issued such a circular, but now when he finds a police officer speaking on oath to its promulgation, it is impossible for him to disbelieve it. The Sub-Inspector cannot have deposed falsely, for he would in that case have been prosecuted by Government for perjury. The writer prays that the new Lieutenant-Governor will kindly enquire into the matter.

The correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* gives another information no less interesting. He says that Babu Purna Chandra Gupta, Deputy Magistrate of Backergunge, has stated in one of his judgments that the District Magistrate had ordered the Deputy Magistrates under him to punish the majority of the persons accused of breaches of the public peace and of riot, and that 3,338 persons in Backergunge alone had been, in consequence of that order, bound over to keep the peace. The Judge found on enquiry that the Magistrate had really issued such an order, and he referred the matter to the High Court. The persons thus unjustly bound over to keep the peace were relieved by the High Court, but Government has not yet made any enquiry in the matter. The High Court Judges in such cases censure the lower courts, but their mild rebukes fail to correct the evil. The writer thinks that if the High Court prepares reports of such cases and sends them to the Lieutenant-Governor with criticisms on the conduct of the Magistrates, the evil may be in some measure removed. The High Court can also demand explanations from the Magistrates; but as the Magistrates are officers owning the authority of the Lieutenant-Governor, they are often not very respectful to the High Court.

BANGANIVASI,
June 23rd 1893.

5. The *Banganivasi* of the 23rd June has received the following communication from the Rangamati Dam-Dim Post Office in Jalpaiguri:—

Two cooly cases.

A cooly having entered a tea garden in the Duars to which he did not belong, the European in charge of the garden gave him some forty or fifty stripes with a cane, and finding the hurt thus caused rather serious sent him to the thana, accusing him of an attempt to decoy coolies from the garden. The police, however, released the cooly on bail, and told him to submit a petition. A petition was accordingly submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, who ordered the police to investigate the matter. The police investigated the matter, taking down the depositions of witnesses; but nothing has yet been heard as to the issue of the case. It is difficult to explain this delay in making the result of the case known, and the more so, as the Deputy Commissioner has been satisfied about the hurt by ocular proof and by the examination of the Civil Surgeon.

The editor hopes that the case will be thoroughly investigated and that the oppressor will be duly punished.

The editor notices another case which has been published in the *Sanjivani* newspaper, and in which Mr. Murray, the Manager of a tea garden in Rangamati, in the Jalpaiguri district, was sentenced to simple imprisonment for one month and a fine of Rs. 500 only for having kept some coolies impounded like so many cattle. The writer goes on to observe that the officer who tried this case must have considered it a trifling offence to keep human beings impounded like pigs, or he would not have been satisfied with inflicting the light punishment he did inflict. Is one month's simple imprisonment sufficient punishment for the

inhuman brutality with which Mr. Murray was proved to have treated his coolies? There can, indeed, be no hope for coolies if, even in the few cases of cooly oppression that come to the notice of judicial officers, the oppressors are thus lightly let off. The Government of India ought to pay more attention to the cooly question, for who can say how many Murrays there may be in the tea gardens? Government does not certainly desire that tea-planters and indigo-planters should confine or whip or commit other unspeakable oppressions on whomsoever they please. But its indifference in the matter of putting down such oppressors would seem to indicate the existence of such a desire in its mind. There will be no remedy for the evil if the kind-hearted officials direct their attention to it. The high price at which justice is being sold puts it beyond the reach of the poor coolies, and they have therefore no resource left but to beg for it.

6. The *Sanjivani* of the 24th June writes as follows:—

A charge of corruption against
a Deputy Magistrate.

One Andharu Das, an inhabitant of Mandalghat, within the jurisdiction of the Sadar station of the Jalpaiguri district, having lodged a complaint before Babu Syamapada Chaudhuri, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, to the effect that Nek Muhammad, Gafur Buksh and others had taken away paddy from his land, the Deputy Magistrate fined the second and the other accused, but did not issue a summons against the first, and the amount of the fine was ordered to be given to the complainant. Some time later the same complainant instituted another action against the same men. This time the same Deputy Magistrate held a local investigation, and sentenced Nek Muhammad to a fine of Rs. 50, and the other accused to two months' imprisonment each, and bound down each accused in a recognisance of Rs. 50 for keeping down the peace for one year. In this case, too, the amount of the fine levied was given to the complainant. The Deputy Magistrate, Babu Syamapada Chaudhuri, has been recently giving proofs of an exceedingly kind disposition by ordering almost all fines levied from convicted persons to be given to the complainants.

Shortly after the above cases, Nek Muhammad submitted a petition under section 145 of the Criminal Procedure Code to the other Deputy Magistrate, Babu Yogendranath Bidyabhusan, bringing some charge against Andharu Das, one Gari Muhammad, and one Menakaram. The following is the substance of the petition and of the statements made on oath by the petitioner:—

Andharu Das, Gari Muhammad, and Menakaram brought undue influence to bear upon the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Syamapada, in deciding the cases against the petitioner and others and in convicting them. And on the strength of the unjust decisions passed in those cases, the complainants took possession of half the petitioner's lands. While those cases were going on, Gari Muhammad and others frequently visited the Deputy Magistrate at his lodgings, and before the cases were decided Gari Muhammad told the petitioner in the presence of many persons that it was useless for the accused to defend themselves, as it was settled that Nek Muhammad would be fined fifty rupees, and the other accused sentenced to two months' imprisonment each. And Gari Muhammad's prediction was, as the result shewed, quite correct. The petitioner has also come to know that the Deputy Magistrate has accepted a bribe of about two thousand rupees from the complainants. The petitioner can prove this. Many people in the town are well aware of the corrupt habits of the Deputy Magistrate. By such underhand means the complainants got the Deputy Magistrate to decide the cases against the petitioner and others, and have obtained possession of nearly half their lands. The petitioner therefore prays that the matter may be thoroughly investigated, and that he and the other injured persons may be restored to the possession of their lands.

Nek Muhammad first saw the Deputy Commissioner with this petition on the 6th May last, and was sent by him with a chaprasi to present it to Yogendra Babu. The latter received the petition and forwarded it to the Deputy Commissioner after having recorded in writing the statements made on oath by the petitioner. The writer has received no papers relating to the proceedings taken on the petition. He has only heard that the Deputy Commissioner considers the allegations made in the petition unworthy of belief, and means to take no further steps on it. The petitioner applied for copies of the papers and orders connected with the proceedings, but the application has been

SANJIVANI,
June 24th, 1893.

rejected. Meantime the petition has created a widespread sensation in the town, the reason of which is not easily explained.

Considering that Babu Syamapada Chaudhuri is a Deputy Magistrate of long standing, the Deputy Commissioner is said to have been very much offended with Yogendra Babu for having received such a defamatory petition against him, and he told Yogendra Babu that he would report against him to Government. Yogendra Babu replied that it was the Deputy Commissioner himself who had ordered him to take all fresh petitions, and in this particular case he had sent the petitioner to him with his own chaprasi. The Deputy Commissioner, however, having denied the fact of his having sent the petition by his own chaprasi, Yogendra Babu recorded the evidence of witnesses on this point, who all corroborated Yogendra Babu's statement. After this the Deputy Commissioner is said to have called for an explanation from Yogendra Babu for his conduct in receiving the petition, and to have threatened him and the petitioner with a criminal prosecution for the offence of calumniating an officer of Government and for abetment of the same. Yogendra Babu refused to submit an explanation, and said that he would explain his conduct before the Court in which his prosecution would come on. The matter seems to have stopped here. The writer, however, fails to see how a poor man like Nek Muhammad could dare to bring falsely such serious charges against Babu Syamapada. It is to be hoped that Government will send for the papers of the cases heard, and after carefully investigating the matter unravel any mystery that may underlie the matter.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 25th, 1893.

7. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 25th June says that Dacca has seldom had the good fortune to get such an able Judge as Babu Kedarnath Ray, who is now officiating for Mr. Brett. As Kedar Babu is about to vacate his officiating appointment, the pleaders of the Dacca Bar have expressed their love and respect for him by presenting him with a laudatory address. In reply, Kedar Babu has made a speech which touched the hearts of all.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 26th, 1893.

8. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 26th June says that Babu Prabhat Chandra Nag, of Bardi, in the Tippera district, who had been convicted and punished by the Deputy Magistrate of Comilla for having disobeyed a summons, has been acquitted on appeal by the Sessions Judge of Dacca. It is said that, at the hearing of the appeal, it was proposed to retain a barrister on the side of Government. But the writer fails to understand the meaning of this *aid* for sending a gentleman to jail. It now appears that Babu Prabhat Chandra has suffered mentally, physically and pecuniarily only in consequence of want of judgment in a Government officer. Ought not Government to compensate him for at least his pecuniary loss?

(d)—Education.

SAMAY,
June 23rd, 1893.

9. The *Samay* of the 23rd June in commenting on the examinations of the Calcutta University, says that the First Arts Examination has become very stiff. The Entrance candidates have only one text-book in English to read, but the First Arts candidates have to read six books. The Sanskrit course for the Entrance Examination is a book of 70 or 80 pages, but the Sanskrit for the First Arts Examination consists of some of the largest and most difficult works of Kalidas and Banbhattacha. As for the Mathematics of the First Arts Examination, that experienced Professor, Mr. N. Ghosh, says in his study of Kristo Das Pal, that it is very difficult. Over and above this, the First Arts candidates have to study Logic, Chemistry and Physics, subjects which are quite new to them; and they have two books on History besides. There is an intermediate examination in the London University which corresponds with the First Examination in Arts of the Calcutta University, but the latter is a difficult examination compared with the former. And so many and such difficult subjects the First Arts candidates must master within 17 or 18 months, for that and not full two years is the time really at their disposal between their passing the Entrance Examination and appearing at the First Arts Examination. The study is crushingly heavy.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

10. The *Sahachar* of the 21st June says that the heavy rain on the night of the 19th flooded Garpar in the suburbs of Calcutta. The roads were submerged and the water flowed in regular currents over them. The colour of the water was the same as that of the river water at this time of the year, showing that river water had entered the underground drains and thereby prevented the escape of the river-water from the surface. The Circular Road was several feet under water. The submerging of this part of the town will not be stopped unless a drain leading to the Circular canal is constructed there. If this is not done, there will be a fearful outbreak of disease in Calcutta.

SAHACHAR,
June 21st, 1893.

11. The *Banganivasi* of the 23rd June has heard that the Government of the North-Western Provinces has exempted from the house-tax all houses whose assessed value is less than twelve rupees a year, and says that the Governments of the other provinces ought to follow this example, as it is a great hardship to people who are pressed for the very necessities of life to pay this tax. Sir Charles Crosthwaite is to be commended for his action which has been quite worthy of a ruler.

BANGANIVASI,
June 23rd, 1893.

12. The *Samay* of the 23rd June writes as follows:—

The Benares Municipality is trying to make itself the paragon of self-governing institutions. Recently it has announced by beat of drum that all Hindus coming into Benares by train shall have to pay a poll-tax of 4 annas, and boys under twelve and above three will have to pay 2 annas each. Aurangzebe hated the Hindus, and he therefore imposed the *jizya* on them, pulled down their temples and desecrated their gods and goddesses. And is Aurangzebe's obnoxious poll-tax going to be re-imposed on the Hindus of Benares under the liberal and enlightened English rule? The writer hopes that an act of such gross injustice will not be done to the Benares people so long as Sir Charles Crosthwaite is Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces.

SAMAY
June 23rd, 1893.

13. The *Chinsura Bartavaha* of the 25th June reports great scarcity of water in Dharmapur, Khadue, Tolaphatak and other places, and says that it will not be well for the Hooghly-Chinsura Municipality to carry out the scheme of filling the tank in front of the Hooghly Town Hall with water carried by the East India Railway Company at a cost of Rs. 1,500. This tank is not very far from the river, and it will make little difference whether it is kept filled with water or not. The money would be better spent in excavating or re-excavating tanks in the villages named above where the scarcity is most acute.

CHINSURA
BARTAVAHA,
June 25th, 1893.

14. The same paper thus writes about the Assessors, the Chairman, and the Vice-Chairman of the Hooghly-Chinsura Municipality in connection with the last assessment:—

CHINSURA
BARTAVAHA.

- (1) Some of them have fixed the assessments of their relatives too low.
- (2) In other cases the assessment has been enhanced, though there has been no addition to the buildings assessed since the last assessment.
- (3) Persons in very reduced circumstances and owning houses which are fast crumbling down have had their assessments enhanced.
- (4) Those who prayed for a reduction of taxation during the years 1890, 1891, and 1892 were told that their petitions would be considered at the time of the re-assessment, but their cases have not been, as a matter of fact, considered.

The following cases are given in support of the above charges:—

- (1) Dina Nath Chakravarti, of ward No. 5, Fatuagali, holding No. 361, prayed for a reduction of assessment on the 31st January 1891, and was told that his case would be considered at the time of revision. But on re-assessment his tax remains the same as before, namely, 14 annas 9 pie per quarter. The house he lives in is in a very bad condition.

- (2) Dwarkanath Chatterji, of ward No. 5, Nandigati, holding No. 143, applied for reduction on the 20th June 1890. The Vice-Chairman ordered an investigation, but there was no investigation and no reduction. Quarterly tax 8 annas.
- (3) Bepin Behari De, of ward No. 5, Kamarpara, holding No. 221, notified to the Commissioners on the 19th November 1891 that as the room and the privy in his garden had been demolished, there ought to be no assessment on account of the garden. But his tax, nevertheless, remains as before, namely, one rupee per quarter.
- (4) Balai Chakravarti, of ward No. 5, Raerter, holding No. 98, applied on the 7th July 1892 for exemption from the municipal taxes. But nothing has been done in his case.
- (5) Abinash Chandra Das, of Chaumatha, who ekes out a precarious living by writing out money-orders for remitters of money in the post office, has been assessed to a quarterly tax of 8 annas.
- (6) Harimati Vaishnavi, who lives by begging, has been assessed to a quarterly tax of 7 annas.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 26th, 1893.

15. The *Som Prakash* of the 26th June complains that the Calcutta Municipality does not pay sufficient attention to the improvement of the native quarter. The roads are

The drainage of Calcutta.
all dirty and the drainage imperfect. The roads become full of water after a small shower. The recent rains literally overflowed the northern part of the town, and people suffered greatly for it. This accumulation of water on the roads is due to the underground drainage. When there were open drains on both sides of the streets, rain water could not accumulate in this way. Something must be done to prevent the flooding of the roads. The number and size of the drain openings should be increased, and the municipal authorities should arrange for the drain-openings being taken care of just at the commencement of a shower, so that the iron gratings over those openings may not be covered with dirt.

SOM PRAKASH.

16. In the same paper a Santipur correspondent says that for more than a week a helpless woman suffering from some disease has been lying in a miserable condition under a fig tree by the side of a public road near Shambazar.

The condition of the Santipur charitable dispensary.

The public or the municipal or police authorities take no notice of this poor woman. She is sure to die in a few days. As there is no arrangement for taking indoor patients in the charitable dispensary, the poor woman cannot be removed there. But why is the municipality so indifferent about building a hospital in connection with the dispensary? Some time ago two poor persons died in this place for want of diet and shelter. The municipality has already a reserve fund of Rs. 3,700 for a building for the charitable dispensary, and it should undertake the work at once. As for the poor woman of Shambazar, the police ought to send her to the Krishnagar charitable hospital.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 27th, 1893.

17. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 27th June once more presses on the Calcutta Municipality the necessity of removing all brothels from the vicinity of public places like Beadon Square, and says that the mischief done by houses of ill-fame near such places is quite incalculable.

Brothels near the public squares in Calcutta.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

CHINSURA
BARTAVAHA,
June 25th, 1893.

18. The *Chinsura Bartavaha* (a new paper) of the 25th June says that for about a year great pressure is being put on the khas mahal raiyats of Chinsura in the Hooghly district to take out *pattas* in the name of the actual owners. Rent, it is said, will not be taken from any raiyat who does not hold a *patta* in his own name. Whoever the authorities at whose instance this oppression of the raiyats is being committed may be, they ought to remember that they cannot compel the raiyats to take out *pattas* in their own names. Those who are using pressure for this purpose are making some mistakes in law and fact. The mistakes in law are as follows:—

(1) It is not the same thing to tell a raiyat to have his own name substituted in the register for that of his predecessor, and to tell him to take out a *patta* in his own name.

(2) The provision of the Bengal Tenancy Act regarding the registration of the name of the raiyat who actually owns land does not apply to the khas mahal in Chinsura.

(3) Supposing that provision to apply to that khas mahal, the raiyats may be compelled to have their own names entered in the register, but not to take out fresh *pattas*.

(4) There is no penalty provided in the law for the failure of a raiyat to have his own name registered.

(5) The purchaser and the heir possess in the right of the seller and the predecessor, and have therefore greater importance in the eye of the law.

The mistakes in regard to facts are as follows:—

(1) The condition of the Chinsura raiyats is getting worse every day. Mr. Toynbee was not right when he said in his book that the material condition of Chinsura was improving.

(2) The absence of *pattas* in the names of the actual owners may cause inconvenience in the collection of the rents of a few holdings, but that is no reason why all the raiyats should be required to take out *pattas* in their own names.

(3) There is no fixed rate of rent in the Chinsura khas mahal. The rent paid by each raiyat has been fixed since the time of the Dutch, and most of the raiyats have become much reduced in circumstances since that time.

(4) It is not true that the rent-collectors exact bribes from the raiyats who hold no *pattas* in their own names. The Collectors, it is true, get small sums as rewards from the raiyats, but the raiyats make these small payments as a matter of long-standing custom, and not as bribes.

(5) In most cases the rent is excessively high, and if in addition to this the raiyats are compelled to take out *pattas*, the hardship will be too great for middle and lower class raiyats to bear.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

19. The *Ulubaria Darpan* of the 14th June says that boats, &c., cannot safely ply in the Banspati canal near Dulapukur in the Ulubaria sub-division in consequence of a large boat laden with straw being immersed there. The wrecked boat should be dragged out in order to make the navigation of the canal safe. The Sub-divisional Officer can easily have this obstruction removed. If the entire boat cannot be dragged out, a part of it can be easily broken off so that boats may not strike against it during ebb-tide.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,
June 14th 1893.

There is a danger for *saltiwalas* in this part of the canal arising from the fishermen's practice of casting their nets in the middle of the canal in such a way that their borders remain nearly a yard above the surface of the water; and as the current is very strong in this part, *saltis* are in danger of being entangled in these nets. The local police should take some steps to remedy this evil.

20. The same paper complains that the Cuttack road near the Ulubaria ferry ghat has been washed off by the river and people are suffering great inconvenience in consequence of the breach not being yet repaired.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,

21. A correspondent of the *Sahachar* of the 21st June writes to the following effect:—

SHACHAR
June 21st, 1893.

Obstruction of irrigation in the 24-Parganas district. Babu Surendra Nath Ghosh of Jagaddal and the Chaudhuris of Baraipur in the 24-Parganas district have been quarrelling over a *hât* at Rajpur for the last few years. In consequence of this misunderstanding, Surendra Babu has thrown up a *bund* across the Adigunga, and by that means checked the flow of its water beyond that point. This obstruction to drainage has made the whole of the tract nearly three miles long from Uttara Gorla to Rajpur unfit for cultivation. The *bund* in question has also prevented the flow of rain-water towards Suryyapur. Some Muhammadans have also thrown up *bunds* across the Ganges at Mahamaya for the purpose of catching fish. This has ruined the prospects of the crops in Elachi-Jagaddal, Khodarbazar and other villages. The Sub-Inspector of the police-station at Sonarpur should punish these men and set the water free.

SAMAJ-O-SAHITYA,
June 25th, 1893.

22. The *Samaj-o-Sahitya* of the 25th June complains that the *pani-pandes* of the Naihati station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway have come to an understanding with the native sweetmeat sellers in the station not to supply

Supply of drinking water at the Naihati station.

water to any passenger who does not purchase refreshments, and hopes that the station authorities will look to the matter.

(h)—General.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 20th, 1893.

23. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 20th June has the following:—

Postal service in the district of Burdwan.

There are two sub-post offices—one at Doihat and another at Kalikapur within the Katwa sub-division of the Burdwan district. Sabupur, Ichhalampur, Chirbelun, Benga, Noapara and several other villages are within two miles distance from Doihat. But these villages are served not by the Doihat sub-post office as they ought to be, but by the sub-post office at Kalikapur, which is some three or four miles distant from them. This causes considerable delay in the distribution of letters in those villages. The authorities should look to this matter. Many sub-post offices have only one post peon each. And as each peon has to distribute letters in several villages, the villagers do not get their letters in time. The number of peons in these post offices should therefore be increased.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 25th, 1893.

24. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 25th June has heard complaints against the Hajiganj post office within the jurisdiction of Tippera and the Pabulia post office within the jurisdiction of Barisal.

A postal complaint.

Though copies of this paper are regularly sent to subscribers residing within the jurisdiction of the above two post offices, the latter do not receive them regularly. The authorities should enquire into the cause of this irregularity and punish the offending parties.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 26th, 1893.

25. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 26th June has the following:—

The *Pioneer* on the separation of the Judicial and Executive functions.

According to the *Pioneer* the rule requiring Joint-Magistrates to make their choice of the Civil or the Executive branch of the service has been the cause of much failure of justice in the country. Under the operation of that rule raw Joint-Magistrates come to officiate in the post of Judge, and in that capacity hear appeals against the judgments of Magistrates of long standing. And on the termination of their officiating appointments they revert to their old posts of Joint-Magistrates. Moreover, as the Executive branch of the service presents better prospects as regards pay and position, it absorbs the best men in the service, leaving only the indifferent men to choose the other branch. That the Executive branch of the service presents better prospects than the Judicial branch is true, and it is for this reason that the writer is in favour of the creation of some divisional Judgeships carrying large salaries as a means of equalising the prospects of the two branches of the service. A proposal to create in each Commissioner's division an appellate Court presided over by a Judge was actually entertained some time ago. There is, however, no truth in the *Pioneer's* statement that only indifferent men choose the Judicial branch of the service, and that it is only District Magistrates who are fit to be appointed as Judges. Messrs. Page, Brett, Kelleher, Crawford and Handley who have chosen the Judicial branch of the service are certainly not indifferent men. As regards the appointment of Magistrates as District Judges, nobody requires to be told that it will lead to gross failure of justice. The *Pioneer* has now altered its tactics. The people are agitating for the separation of the functions of the Judge and the Magistrate, and the *Pioneer* wants to neutralise this agitation by advocating a more complete union of the functions than is now the case. It apparently thinks that its advocacy in this contrary direction will terrify the advocates of separation, and they will therefore cease agitating for fear of making the situation worse than it already is. But this trick of the *Pioneer* has been found out, and will deceive nobody. There is also very little chance of Government accepting its proposal and making Magistrates District Judges. For, even if the proposed separation is not effected, the union of the two functions will not, it is certain, be made closer than it already is.

26. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 28th June will be glad

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 28th, 1893.

The solution of the currency question.

if the measures adopted by the Viceroy for the solution of the Exchange difficulty really produce the effects which are expected of them. That they will not produce such effects is, however, certain. Sovereigns and half-sovereigns will not be coined in the mints of this country, nor will they be made legal tender. But those imported from Australia and England will be accepted in this country in satisfaction of Government dues. This means that they will not form part of the ordinary currency of the country. And having regard to the fact that it was found impossible to include them within the currency of the country at a time when a sovereign was worth only Rs. 10, it will not be possible to do the same thing now. Now, the question is, what will be done with the sovereigns and half-sovereigns which will accumulate in the treasuries and mints after a time? The practice of taking them was stopped some years ago because it was found inconvenient to import them into England.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

27. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 27th June says that the provision of the

SULABH DAINIK,
June 27th, 1893.

The identification clause of the Registration Act.

Registration Act which makes it a sufficient guarantee for the genuineness of a document presented for registration, that the executant should be identified by a man of his own village, is often taken advantage of by wicked people to get false deeds registered. To give one illustration: Hari bears Ram a grudge, and he therefore hires two or three men of Ram's village and with their help draws up a deed purporting to be executed by Ram, and gets it registered, one of the hired men being identified before the Registrar by the others as the real executant. Now, if this happens, and there is no doubt that it does now and then happen, what is there to prevent Ram being utterly ruined in this way? As a matter of fact, many zamindars take advantage of this very convenient law of identification to ruin such of their raiyats as do not readily submit to their yoke.

The writer therefore suggests the two following methods, the adoption of either of which will effectually stop the fraudulent practice—

(1) On the presentation of a deed for registration the Registrar should, instead of registering it at once, cause it to be detained in his office, in the meantime causing a notice to be served upon the man who purports to have executed the deed. The notice may be served in the way that notices, &c., issued by the law courts are served. The peon who serves it should be required to produce the signature of the headman of the village as evidence of service. And the deed should be registered after receiving the peon's affidavit. The writer does not also consider it a bad plan to proclaim the fact of the execution of the deed by beat of tom-tom in the executant's village.

(2) When a deed is presented for registration, the Registrar should cause photographs of the deed and of the executant to be taken, and these photographs should be kept in his office.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

28. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 20th June refers to the conversion to

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 20th, 1893.

Christian proselytisation in Burdwan.

Christianity at Burdwan of a Hindu girl, aged about 10 or 11, and remarks as follows:—

The girl is the daughter of one Narayan Nag, deceased; she is married, and her husband is living. Before her conversion she lived in the company of Christians only for a few days. She is too young to be able to judge of the merits of any religion. Though born a Hindu, she knew not what Hinduism was, and there was absolutely no likelihood of her knowing anything of Christianity. When asked by a gentleman why she embraced Christianity, she replied "because Christianity is a good religion." On being asked why she considered it a good religion, she replied "because Jesus revived after death." This being the case, it was a very serious matter to convert such a girl to Christianity. As a minor she has no right to do anything against the wish of her guardian, who is no other than her husband. The missionaries probably took the permission of the girl's mother before converting her, but they should have considered

whether or not her mother had any right to give her consent in a matter like this. It was essential to know the opinion of her husband, but he was not at all consulted by the missionaries. As her husband is living, she will not be able to marry again, and must live like a widow all her life. Thus conversion to Christianity has blasted the poor girl's prospects of happiness in this world. It has become indispensable for Government to keep an eye upon the proceedings of the missionaries, for Hindu society will be ruined if they are allowed to convert minors as they have done in this case. Many Hindu girls now read in Zenana Mission Schools, and what a misery it will be for Hindu society if the conversion of these girls is made to depend on the will of the female missionaries. If the missionaries commence converting boys and girls and meet with no opposition from Government, people will suspect Government itself to be at the bottom of the affair. And if this impression gains ground, it will diminish people's confidence in Government—a result which is certainly not desirable.

PRATIKAR,
June 23rd, 1893.

29. The *Pratihar* of the 23rd June lays the following before Government for its favourable consideration:—

Nizamut matters.

(1) So long as there was a sub-division at Lalbagh, both the *Nizamut* and the *Deuriath* pensions of the Murshidabad Nawab family and their dependents and relatives were paid from the Lalbagh treasury, and no one felt any inconvenience. But after the amalgamation of that sub-division with the Sadar, the Nizamut Collector goes personally to Murshidabad every month to pay the *Deuriath* pensions, but the holders of the other pensions have every one of them to go over to Berhampore to have their pensions paid. This causes great inconvenience, especially to the receivers of small pensions, as the travelling expenses and the fees of mukhtears tell heavily upon them. Government may well arrange for the distribution of small Nizamut pensions through the Nizamut Collector when that officer goes over to Murshidabad to pay the *Deuriath* pensions.

(2) For forty days after the death of Her Highness Nawab Raisunnese Begum Saheba of Murshidabad, the servants and dependents of the deceased lady had all their expenses paid by His Highness the Nawab. But they have been now told to look after themselves. Will not the Government take pity on these helpless people, and especially on the old servants of Her Highness?

(3) It is long since Prince Iskander Ali Mirza died, but Government has not yet made any provision for his sons and daughters. It is hoped that Government will lose no more time in making some arrangement for the education of his sons. More delay may do much mischief.

SAMAY,
June 23rd, 1893.

30. The *Samay* of the 23rd June has the following:—

The Civil Service Resolution.

In reply to Lord Cross' question, the Secretary of State has said that the carrying out of the Civil Service Resolution will depend on the opinion of the Government of India, and if that Government does not think it proper to hold the examination in that country, it will be free to express its opinion to that effect. Now, this is indirectly encouraging the Government of India to oppose Mr. Paul's proposal. The Indian Civilians are already against holding the Civil Service examination in India, and they will become more resolute in their opposition when they have got an inkling of the Secretary of State's mind in the matter.

The Secretary of State has given an undue importance to the opinion of the Government of India, and has by so doing invested it with greater authority than what it possessed before. He should have looked well before doing this. The course which he has adopted to make Mr. Paul's Resolution abortive may, in future, embitter the relation between the House of Commons and the Government of India. The House of Commons has passed a Resolution prohibiting the enforcement of the Contagious Diseases Act in India, and the Government of India is now trying to carry it out. But what will the Secretary of State do if the Government of India says that the Resolution cannot be fully carried out in India? And what will the Secretary of State do if the Government of India abolishes the jury system again, and says that trial by jury is unsuitable in India? The power of the Government of India is already so great that if the Premier or the Secretary of State makes it greater, the result will be that the people of this country will not be able to obtain any benefit from the House of Commons against that Government.

31. The *Sanjivani* of the 24th June again notices the case of Bhaba Devi, who is alleged to have been fraudulently registered as a cooly under the false name of Kulada

SANJIVANI,
June 24th, 1893.

A cooly case. (see Report on Native Papers for week ending 1st April 1893, paragraph 54), and says that the local authorities have refused to order the release of the woman without the permission of the Chief Commissioner. It remains to see what the Chief Commissioner does in the matter.

In the meantime the manager of the Sakabtenga tea-garden in Sibsagar, where the woman is now employed as a cooly, has been so good as to give her only light work to do, and to have expressed his intention of letting her off on receipt of Rs. 100 on account of expenses incurred in her recruitment and registration. Some people in Jorehat are doing their best to raise the money and get the woman released.

32. The *Bangavasi* of the 24th June thinks that they are wrong who find fault with the loyalty of the residents of Calcutta for not mustering very strong at the

BANGAVASI,
June 24th, 1893.

Bengalis in the Royal Marriage Meeting in the Town Hall.

Town Hall meeting in connection with the approaching marriage of His Royal Highness the Duke of York. There is no reason whatever to suspect the loyalty of that profoundly loyal people, the Bengalis. The fact is that the Bengalis never see their Sovereign in the manner in which they desire to see her, nor does it fall to their lot to find all that they expect of their Sovereign granted or fulfilled. And that is why they cannot always make a full and free display of their loyalty.

33. The following is an extract from an article in the same paper:—

BANGAVASI.

Indians in the Civil Service. It seems to us that it is the intention of the English to rule the country by English agency. And we are of opinion that it is by English agency that a country under English rule can be properly governed. It would therefore be well if natives are not very largely admitted to the Civil Service.

We must let it be clearly understood that we do not at all dislike the idea of India becoming a free country. We should certainly be glad if the English were to leave the country to us, that is to say, if they were to leave our government to ourselves, and if we could govern ourselves without their help. But it would be idle to entertain any such hope or desire at present, for it is clear that the English are not at all willing to resign their Indian sovereignty. And India remaining as now in the hands of the English, serious complications will be introduced into the administration if the Indians are allowed to pass the Civil Service examination in their own country.

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says now and then that India is not the property of the English in the sense that his your or my house or zamindari is his, your or my property, and that India is a part of the English dominions in the same sense in which England is a part thereof. But few people in this country will understand what this means. No one can, without a thorough knowledge of the English language, understand the difference between *dominion* and *property*. Nor do the great mass of people in this country understand by the words *sovereign* and *sovereignty* what the English people understand by them. Though England is Queen Victoria's *dominion* (*Rajya*) it is not her *property*. Her Majesty has not the power to make a gift or sale of or to mortgage England. Nor has she power to draw from the English Treasury any sum of money she likes. The King or Queen of such a dominion is practically nothing more than the tutelary god or goddess, so to speak, of the throne. The dominion he or she rules is not his or her property. If it is any one's property, it is the property of his or her subjects collectively.

Whatever the *Patrika* may say, we are decidedly of opinion that the English look upon India as their own property. The English have not certainly come to India as pilgrims come to sacred places, that is to say, for the purpose of acquiring virtue or religious merit. They have come here, they are remaining here, and they will remain here for the sake of gratifying their desire to enjoy worldly pleasure and prosperity. And the Civil Service Examination in India will certainly be an obstacle to this enjoyment of theirs.

The Civil Service Resolution.

34. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 25th June has the following:—

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 25th, 1893.

The Bengalis are regarded as the weakest people on the face of the earth, but they seem, nevertheless, to be mortally dreaded by Englishmen. It is clear

from what the *Pioneer* and other Anglo-Indian papers are saying that it is Englishmen's fear of the Bengalis that has hitherto led them to close the door of the Civil Service against the Indians. Englishmen fear that if the Civil Service Examination is held in India, the Bengalis—the Bengali Hindus specially—will distance all other races in the competition and carry off the best prizes, and so in the course of time India will come to be ruled by them instead of by Englishmen. This is the reason why they are so opposed to holding that examination in this country. Englishmen cannot certainly consent to an arrangement which is thought to be likely to injure their own interests. They would rather forego justice, religion, truth, nay heaven itself, than do anything which will injure their material interests. This being the case, no effect, it is certain, will be given to the Civil Service Resolution of the House of Commons.

URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 17th, 1893.

35. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* of the 17th May is of opinion that Discipline in the Ravenshaw College. Mr. Hallward, the Principal of the Ravenshaw College, has enforced strict discipline among the students of the institution with a view to curb the undutiful and insolent spirit of certain boys who have made themselves notorious by committing mischief in various ways, and that he ought not to be blamed for enforcing such rigorous discipline.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
May 20th, 1893.

36. The *Utkaldipika* of the 20th May makes the following suggestions for the improvement of the *Uriya Gazette* published in Cuttack:—

- (a) That copies of the Gazette be supplied direct to each kanungo and each officer in charge of a police outpost, with the request that he will try his best to create an interest in the publication in the minds of gentlemen residing within his jurisdiction.
- (b) That each Department of Government be requested to advertise in the Gazette every vacancy occurring within its jurisdiction.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 27th, 1893.

37. The *Utkaldipika* of the 27th May is sorry to remark that the results of the University Examinations as regards the University Examinations. The Ravenshaw College in the University Examinations. Cuttack Ravenshaw College are unsatisfactory, and, so far as the College classes are concerned, are unaccountable.

All the native papers of Orissa speak approvingly of the election of candidates for seats in the Bengal Legislative Council by the District Boards of Patna and Rajshahi and by the Municipalities of the Presidency and Chittagong Divisions.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 1st July 1893.